

CLAIMS

1. Personalization machine, comprising a transfer system (3) for portable objects (4), incorporating an integrated circuit, characterized in that it comprises a personalization elevator (20) translated vertically and sequentially on a guide support (70) by driving and positioning means (24, 73, 28, 75, 72), said elevator (20) being made up of a parallelepiped plate (23) fitted with a plurality of connection devices whether or not of mixed type (22i, 22n) connecting to the integrated circuit of portable objects (4) that are brought in sequential manner in front of an incoming/outgoing position on the transfer line.

2. Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that said guide support (70) is made up of a parallelepiped plate (71) whose length is approximately equal to twice the length of said personalization elevator (20), comprising a vertical slit (72), two vertical rails (79) and two pulleys (74) joined together by a belt (75).

3. Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that the driving and positioning means are made up of means (24) for holding in place and sliding said elevator in said rails (73) of said guide support (70), of a driving fixation (28) firmly anchoring the elevator to belt (75) of guide support (70), the vertical slit (72) of guide support (70) forming a track for the driving fixation (28) of said elevator (20), the driving and positioning means allowing each fixed platform (227) to be brought to a halt level with the

portable objects (4) and in the alignment of said transfer system (3) for portable objects.

4. Linear personalization machine according to claim 2, characterized in that said belt (75) of said guide support (70) is periodically set in motion by an electric motor or other power means such that the upward and downward movements of said elevator (20) along the guide support (70) are regularly interrupted at the level of the incoming/outgoing position on the transfer line to enable the loading and unloading of portable objects (4).

5. Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 3, characterized in that the driving fixation (28) located at the center of said parallelepiped plate (23) comprises means, at its end point, for anchoring to said belt (75) of said guide support (70).

6. Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a decoder package (250) connected to each first parallel port (216) of each personalization card (21i) by an address bus (257) and a data bus (258), said personalization cards (21i) being connected in parallel to a backplane computer (241) via a second parallel port (215).

7. Linear personalization machine according to claim 1, characterized in that the connection devices (22i) enable testing of the electronic chips and activation of the electric contacts and/or contactless terminals of said portable objects (4).

8. Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 7, characterized in that when the connection devices (22) have detected a faulty portable object (4), the latter is unloaded from said elevator (20) before its personalization.

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9.Linear personalization machine according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises computer means for personalization control and management (243).

5 10.Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 9, characterized in that said personalization control and management means (243) trigger a substitution sequence whenever a personalization defect on a portable object (4) is signaled.

10 11.Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 10, characterized in that the connection devices (22i) test the quality of the personalization of the portable objects (4) and signal any personalization defects to the control and management means (243).

15 12.Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 9, characterized in that an ejection station (6) located at the exit of said personalization machine (10) tests the quality of personalization of the portable objects (4) and signals any personalization defects to the control and management means (243).

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